

## **BELMONT FREE LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY TRUSTEE MEETING**

**March 21st, 2024**

Present: Caroline Mapes, Molly Pike, Barb Woolston, Pat Presutti (via Zoom), Ash Gardener, Curtis Decker, Bobbi Patello

The meeting was called to order at 3:34 PM by President Molly Pike.

### **Secretary's Report**

- Molly made a motion to accept the January minutes after the requested corrections had been made. Barb seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.
- Molly made a motion to accept the February minutes. Barb seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.
- Correspondence
  - Jeff Apple - donation of \$50
  - Stacey Kamrowski - donation of \$100 was made in honor of Jerry Jamesby Barb Woolston
- Cards were sent to Sue and George Eddie

### **Treasurer's Report**

- Barb had a question about the E-book expense and what the money was being spent on.
- The March report was accepted as read.

### **Director's Report**

- Stats
  - Total Circ.: 257, Computers: 9, Holds Received: 62, Holds Sent: 109, Out of System: 0, Items Added: 8, Patrons Added: 7, Discards: 0
- Trainings
  - Curtis met with Brian from STLS
- Facebook Account Status
  - An increase in likes has been noted.
  - Pat, Sue, Curtis are now administrators on the Facebook page.
- Building Grant Status - Funds will be distributed in November 2024
- Future Event Planning
  - An email was sent out for the Victorian Mourning Hair demo and the Free Art For Youth program.
  - Julie Burdick does programs on Genesee Canal and is interested in running a program.
  - The SEWcial Place, located in Belmont, is interested in planning an event at the library.
  - The Emily Edmund event is Thursday April 11th 9:30-2:30 PM. This will be advertised.
  - The library is rolling out the Reading Express reading program for kids to encourage them to read books.
  - Sue has established a new donation jar.
  - An April 8th eclipse event is scheduled.

- Annie found a CD player for the kids room.
- April 29th chalk art and movie event is scheduled.
- Newsbank is a potential new online digital resource for newspapers. 4000 full text newspapers for 350/yr subscription. They offer different collections using a very intuitive format. Newspapers on average go back to the 1980's. Patrons could access from home or at the library. Curtis will put out a poll to the public on Facebook to see if there is interest.
- Curtis will put old teapots on display upstairs.

## **Old Business**

- Previous donations from December
  - A thank you note was sent out to Mr. Serra for the past donation.
  - Barb Fleischmann's old secretary folder was given to Caroline.
- Author visit
  - No further information about this - we will not do the event.
- Molly reported that calendar year and fiscal year are NOT the same, the calendar year for the library is June 1 to May 31.
- Updates from Calendar Committee
  - Molly, Pat, Curtis and Ash will be added to the Google calendar under "view only".
  - Curtis will email Caroline when there is an event that needs to be added to the calendar.
- Updates from Children's Activity Committee
  - Both committee members were absent. Molly shared emailed information on their behalf.
  - Annie has ideas for events but has concerns about funding and time commitments. The board agreed that this seemed like a lot to ask of them and brought up that the school and churches already have summer programs.
  - Nichole has solidified August 22nd Tanglewood Nature Center event. They will come to the library.
  - Another chalk and movie event is scheduled for May 31st.
  - The board has a lot of questions, so they will table this until they can talk to the committee in person.
- Worn furniture in the children's library
  - First quote: \$400-600 dollars for one chair covered in pleather.
  - There is also a self-repair kit that could be purchased. Cloth covers that are appropriately fitted are another option.
    - Curtis will ask the local carpet establishment if they sell chair covers.
- Library Mascot
  - Caroline will present the project to the students at school and ask them to work on a cartoon dragon design.
- Cafe idea
  - Instead of a cafe, we could have a cart in the library.
  - Some board members had concerns about spills.
  - Upstairs we have the kitchenette and wood floors.

- Non-fiction room could be an option for a downstairs cafe space.
- Curtis recommends a once a week trial for the Keurig to test it for problems.
- The board still needs to vote on purchasing a Keurig and supplies.

### **New Business**

- Letting more light into the library
  - Plans include: getting rid of tables, bringing in plants, changing curtains.
  - Barb made a motion to form the interior decorating committee. Bobbi seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.
  - Pat, Barb, Curtis and Bobbi will sit on the committee.
- Preservation of old Dispatch newspapers
  - The old newspapers are disintegrating in storage and on the shelves. Some of these are no longer salvageable.
  - Molly will come in and volunteer for the purpose of going through some of these old documents. She will report back to the board on what she finds.
- Using Gmail and Google Docs
  - Caroline will set up gmail accounts for Sue, Bobbi and Nichole.
  - Caroline will give advice to board members who are having specific problems with gmail.
- A piano was offered by Barb Fleischmann to the library. Concerns were raised about whether it would crowd the space upstairs. Pat wants a picture of it before we decide to take it or not. The board will decide at the next meeting. Curtis will also add it to the Facebook interest poll.
- Curtis requested a new chair for the circulation desk as the one there is falling apart.

Next meeting - April 18, 2024 at 3:30pm

President Molly Pike made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:01 PM. Caroline seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Caroline Mapes, Secretary